TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

May 14, 2001 LB 536

SENATOR KREMER: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I, too, would like to oppose this amendment. I like the idea, in a way, but I don't think it's the way to approach this in order to keep it consistent. We cannot start reducing the amount of money and do away with the...with the checkoff and the General Fund money and then come back and put it back on. I think it would be better to address that as the time comes along. If you remember, last year or the year before, we reduced the checkoff by a quarter of a cent and we reduced the General Fund money because the EPIC Fund was growing bigger than it needed to, and I think we could still do that any time that the fund started to grow more than what was needed, if one of the plants or two of the plants should not come on. Is Senator Dierks around? I'd like to ask him a question. Maybe,...Senator Schrock.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Dierks, are you available?

SENATOR KREMER: Let me ask Senator Schrock.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schrock?

SENATOR KREMER: Ed. Okay, okay.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schrock?

SENATOR SCHROCK: Would you repeat the question.

SENATOR KREMER: Okay, I haven't asked it yet. (Laughter)

SENATOR SCHROCK: Okay.

SENATOR KREMER: We're talking about two new plants coming on. If there would be a third plant in the next four or five years, could they also come on line and participate in the...in the EPIC Funds?

SENATOR SCHROCK: I would assume the question would be, without new legislation, I would guess the answer to be no.

SENATOR KREMER: That they...that they couldn't? I don't know,